

Message Text

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61

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DRAFTED BY EUR/NE:SPDAWKINS:BAS

APPROVED BY P - MR. SISCO

IO/UNP - MRS. HARTLEY (TELEPHONE)

S/CPR - AMBASSADOR ROCKWELL

EUR - MR. STABLER

S/S - JPMOFFAT

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R 241937Z JAN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 017355

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: DA, OVIP (HARTLING, POUL) VN

SUBJECT: DANISH AMBASSADOR CALLS ON UNDER SECRETARY SISCO

1. DANISH AMBASSADOR BARTELS CALLED JANUARY 21 ON UNDER SECRETARY SISCO TO ASK IF THE USG WOULD RECEIVE DANISH PRIME MINISTER HARTLING FOR AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO WASHINGTON, PREFERABLY DURING THE LAST WEEK IN FEBRUARY. BARTELS EXPLAINED THAT THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN DENMARK WAS COMPLICATED, AND IT WAS DIFFICULT TO FORECAST THE OUTCOME OF THE PRESENT PARLIAMENTARY MANEUVERINGS. IT WAS, HOWEVER, THE CONSIDERED OPINION OF THE DANISH GOVERNMENT THAT PRIME MINISTER HARTLING WOULD BE ABLE TO SORT THINGS OUT AND STAY ON TO LEAD THE GOVERNMENT. SISCO PROMISED TO LOOK INTO THE MATTER IMMEDIATELY. EXPLAINING THAT THE PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE FOR 1975 WAS, HOWEVER, VERY TIGHT, SISCO SAID HE WOULD NONETHELESS TRY TO LET BARTELS KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. BARTELS CONFIRMED THAT A DATE AFTER NEXT FEBRUARY WOULD ALSO BE ACCEPTABLE, ALTHOUGH IT WOULD

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NOT BE AS CONVENIENT FOR HARTLING.

2. BARTELS SAID HE DID NOT HAVE FORMAL INSTRUCTIONS TO RAISE ISSUE OF DANISH CANDIDACY FOR PRESIDENT OF NEXT GENERAL ASSEMBLY, BUT WANTED TO EXPLAIN TO UNDER

SECRETARY THAT EC NINE WOULD PROBABLY AGREE ON DANISH CANDIDATE OTTO BORCH. THERE APPEARED TO BE BROAD CONSENSUS IN SUPPORT OF DENMARK, SAID BARTELS, ALTHOUGH CANDIDACY OF AUSTRALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER WILLESEE WAS CAUSING BRITISH TO HESITATE. IF THE BRITISH, SAID BARTELS, WERE TO APPROACH THE USG ON THIS ISSUE, US SUPPORT FOR THE DANISH CANDIDATE WOULD BE WELCOME. SISCO SAID THAT AS A MATTER OF POLICY, USG DID NOT INVOLVE ITSELF IN REGIONAL DECISIONS SUCH AS THAT. WE NORMALLY SUPPORT WHOEVER IS THE AGREED REGIONAL CANDIDATE. SISCO ADDED THAT HE WOULD REVIEW THIS WITH US DELEGATION AT UN. BARTELS SAID HE UNDERSTOOD COMPLETELY.

3. THE AMBASSADOR AND UNDER SECRETARY HAD A GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE MIDDLE EAST AND DETENTE. INGERSOLL

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